

Troop Camp Locations

So far as is possible in accordance with the policy of the camp, each troop registering eight or more boys with a leader in charge will be permitted to select the site of its own troop camp.

Scoutmasters are therefore urged to have their scouts file their applications for registration with them at the earliest possible date, and then to file the group at the District Office and select their camp site. Additional applications may of course be filed by the troop at any subsequent date.

Overnight Camp

To give opportunity for more "real camping" to older and more experienced campers, under experienced leaders, there is being opened this year the first of a series of "outlying camps," where a camp troop will be permitted to go for a short period and to have their own camp under council supervision.

This camp will be situated on Silver Creek (the Trout Stream) near Owassippe's Grave. It will be furnished with canoes so trips can be taken down stream to White Lake or up stream to the headwaters, and thence to Little Blue and other lakes. Real adventure may here be had by those who, through previous experience at Owassippe have shown they are trained and equipped to make the best of this opportunity. If your troop cannot go there this year, perhaps it can earn the right to do so another year.

Camp Honors

There will be one grade of troop honors, and three of individual honors. There will be in each of the three main camps each period a troop contest with points for inspection, discipline, advancement, contests, construction work and service.

A similar point system will be run on an individual basis, all scouts scoring a certain minimum, and receiving the approval of the leaders being designated as Owasippe Campers, and being permitted to wear the camp skull cap with numeral.

Those receiving a higher score, and being designated by the Junior and Senior Councils as having displayed more than usual scout spirit, and having made a definite contribution to the morale of the camp will be designated as Honor Campers, and will be permitted to wear the coveted Owasippe "O" on their skull cap.

At the close of each period, each troop unit in camp will be permitted to designate the individual scout who by his exceptional scout spirit, his cheerfulness, helpfulness, and leadership of others has done the most to make his troop camp a success. This scout will be permitted to qualify for membership in the Wimachtendienk, (or W. W. W.), the Camp Honor Society which was organized at one camp last summer. Lodges will be organized at all camps this year. Membership in the W. W. W. is the highest camp honor.

Qualified Life Saving Examiners of the American Red Cross will be at each of the camps. Every scout will be given an opportunity before leaving camp to

“Swimmers” or “Life Savers” will be organized into a Life Saving Crew of the American Red Cross, and scouts sixteen years old or over who pass the Senior Life Saving examination will be organized into an Auxiliary Corps. Members of the Corps, Auxiliary Corps and Crew will be on duty at all swimming periods.

Equipment

Leaders should impress upon their boys the necessity of taking the equipment home. Many, not realizing how cold nights at camp often become with insufficient clothing and but one or two blankets. The result is much needless suffering, and needless work for those in charge.

Cos

Most parents will realize that the registration fee is nominal. However, in some cases, particularly in working families, the cost item is very big. For those who definitely cannot afford to go to one of the Owasippe Camps there is available, as stated in the leaflet, Camp Checaugau. This can also be found under the direction of Chicago Council, B. S. and is the first class in every respect. It is operated on a low cost basis primarily to the low cost of transportation. Whether the boy can go to the Owasippe Camps will depend, this should be urged rather than for him to go to Camp Checaugau. Boys with no reason of cost, and depending but one week, should be urged to go to Checaugau or to the low cost but a more for the longer period.

Emp. Administration

Camp Dire by reason of her responsibilities, lives, health and safety of the boys in camp, in control of certain fundamental policies, it is to have the details of program and discipline handled on as democratic a basis as possible, as far as the boys are concerned, and as closely as may be to the desires of the boys' leaders at camp.

Therefore, each of the three main camps there will be organized into a Junior Council of one boy elected from each camp and a Senior Council composed of the camp officers and some of the troop leaders. These councils will meet daily on call, and will assist in the development and operation of programs and camp administration.

Propaganda

Where it has not already been done, it is urged that the Scoutmaster or troop committee, if possible, visit or phone the parents of each boy, explain the troop program in detail, remove any misunderstanding and secure the active interest and cooperation of the parents. One troop committee reports they have already secured the promise of eight registrations of boys who could not otherwise visit. The time spent in such propaganda will materially increase the registration from your troop, and is time well invested.

LET'S GO

Boy Scouts of America

CHICAGO COUNCIL



F. F. BRADLEY
Chairman Campaign
Committee

G. B. STEPHENSON
Scout Executive

HOWARD F. GILLETTE
President

May 5, 1922.

Dear Scout Leaders:—

I am addressing this printed letter to 2,000 men of Chicago who are contributing to the betterment of their community through Scouting. While printed, am hoping that you will take it as a personal message;—time and expense only keep me from writing you individually.

I am asking you to read carefully the pages which follow; paragraphs on certain phases of our Camping Program which I believe should be especially pointed out. I am not only asking you to read these pages, but for the next few months keep definitely before you and transfer into action the thoughts suggested.

The success or failure of our Scout camps depend a great deal upon what you do. You cannot avoid that responsibility if you would. Of the other printed matter which should reach your troop promptly, the folder is written primarily to the parent. Won't you urge each Scout to see that his father and mother read this carefully?

But few of the Scouts will need more than a suggestion of Camping made to them. These fellows will register with little or no effort on your part, but when a definite promise to sign up is not in hand by the first of June, it is time for the whole adult personnel of the troop to get busy.

Personal calls on the parent are almost always productive of the desired results; the next best thing is the telephone. Divide the names of the Scouts who do not sign up by the first of June and each adult—Scoutmaster, Assistant or Committeemen—agree to do a little missionary work. If this is done, the whole job can be cleaned up in two or three evenings.

This is a very definite thing which we are asking you to do for your boys.

Yours for Scouting,

G. B. STEPHENSON,
Scout Executive.

P. S.—The Scout Habit:—"A Good Turn Daily."

THE WHY OF CAMP

The Value To the Boy of Going To Camp

Camp offers the boy healthful recreation and opportunity for self-expression in the fresh air, as against the sometimes cramped, restricting influences, and largely indoor recreation of the city.

Camp offers the scout an opportunity to really live scouting, which is essentially an out-door program, as against merely practicing it, in the city.

Camp develops in the boy a love of the out-of-doors and of life therein, something which will enrich his life for all the years to come, broaden his recreational facilities, and increase his usefulness to the community and literally prolong his days.

Camp is a tremendous socializing influence, in which pettiness and selfishness are repressed, and friendliness and helpfulness stimulated, frequently to the changing of a boy's whole life.

Camp gives an unequalled opportunity for instruction and advancement in scouting, and thus materially assists the scoutmaster in his work.

Every scout leader, therefore, taking into account his obligation to further the interests of his boys, should do his utmost to see that every scout gets to camp.

The Value To the Troop of Having Its Members Go To Camp

Camps, through stimulating the boys in scout activity and progress, results in higher rank and better trained scouts available as leaders and instructors in the troop.

Camp through vitalizing the interest of the scout in his work, and giving opportunity for expression of his interest in the out-of-doors, strengthens his whole interest in scouting, and thus lengthens the period of his scout activity. The turnover of scouts who went to camp last summer has been but about one-half that of those who did not.

The Value To the Troop of Camping as a Unit

Troop standards depend in large measure on troop morale.

Troop morale is based largely on personal friendships and loyalty. Personal friendships are formed primarily in the doing of things together. The intimate contact of "Buddies" at camp, and their common activity day after day in the doing of things which stimulate their imagination and open their hearts, forms the closest possible basis for the development of deep and lasting friendships. Camp, which offers this environment, therefore gives the troop which camps as a unit, ideal conditions for the raising of troop morale and standards.

Many boys will go to camp if their chums are going together who would not otherwise go.

A period in camp will enable the troop to develop splendid troop history and traditions which will mean much to the welfare of the troop not only in the present, but for years to come.

The Value of the Scoutmaster (or other adult troop official) Going to Camp with His Troop

Many parents will only permit their boys to go to camp if the Scoutmaster, whom they know and in whom they have confidence, is going in charge of them. Many other boys will only go if their hero, their Scoutmaster, is to be their leader.

It gives the Scoutmaster his greatest opportunity to strengthen his hold and influence with his troop, for the same reason it brings the boys of the troop most closely together.

It enables him to take full advantage of the situations developed in camp, to reorganize his troop and train his leaders. The period in camp is therefore not only the climax of the past year's work for the troop, but the foundation for the coming year's work.

It gives the Scoutmaster an opportunity for a healthful, active, invigorating vacation, for a new stimulation and inspiration to increased effectiveness, and for very helpful training.

The Scoutmasters most sacred obligation is the character development and citizenship training of the scouts in his charge. This is the very essence of the Scout Program. It is the objective of all the Scoutmaster's work. All the rest is but a means to an end. Camp offers the environment where the boy's heart most readily opens up, and where the heart of the man can most effectively reach the heart of the boy. But this operates fully only when the boy has complete confidence in the man. And this confidence is not quickly or lightly given.

The strange leader in charge of a group of boys for two weeks can hope to have but a modest effect on the permanent character of those boys. The Scoutmaster, however, who, having already the confidence of his boys, goes to camp with them, may hope to vitally affect their lives. The Scoutmaster may thus expect to double his effectiveness in a year's work in accomplishing the great objective for which he is in scouting, by spending two weeks in camp with his troop. No Scoutmaster who can possibly make arrangements to go to camp with his troop can afford not to do so. This is the supreme reason for the troop camping as a unit with its Scoutmaster in charge.

The Place of Camping in the Scout Program

Summer camp is the great, outstanding activity in the year's work in scouting. It is not a luxury for the boy. It is a necessity for his fullest development. It is not a privilege to permit him to go to camp. It is an injury to prevent him from doing so.

Parents should be made to see that it is not a question of giving the boy a good time, or even of giving him a healthful vacation, but it is a question of giving the boy an opportunity for vital character development.

Similarly going to camp is not a sacrifice for the Scout leaders. It is the seizing of a glorious opportunity, not only for self-development, but for adding 100% to the returns from the investment of time, thought and effort he has for the past year been making in the lives of boys.

The only ideal that can satisfy a scout council is every troop in camp two weeks or more under its own leadership. The only ideal that can satisfy the troop leaders is every scout in camp with the troop for at least two weeks. Let us all strive to our utmost to come as close to that ideal as is humanly possible. Every troop committeeman has signed an obligation to "secure suitable opportunity for the members of the troop to spend one or more weeks in camp, with adequate facilities and supervision." Here is a real job for your Troop Committee. Get them busy on it.

The Independent Troop Camp

The Chicago Council and the Camping Department of the National Council, being responsible for the health, safety, and proper organization of all Boy Scout Camps of Chicago and of the United States respectively, have adopted minimum standards below which no camp may be permitted to operate as a Boy Scout Camp.

Independent camps are discouraged and can only be operated as a "Boy Scout Camp" after plans have been submitted to the Camping Committee of the Chicago Council showing that such camp will maintain the proper standards.

Scoutmaster's Fee Remitted

In order to make it as convenient as possible for the Scoutmaster to come to camp with his troop, and to extend some slight recognition to him for his service to boyhood, and to connect him definitely as a member of the camp staff, every Scoutmaster (or other adult leader approved by the District Scout Office) coming to camp for a two weeks period in charge of at least eight boys of his troop will have his fee remitted and transportation furnished by the camp. Additional troop leaders may come on the same basis for every additional eight boys in the troop coming to camp with them for two weeks or more.

It is understood that such leaders are directly responsible for the boys in their troop, and that in addition, as members of the camp staff they will take an active part in the general camp administration, accepting such responsibilities as may be assigned to them by the Camp Director.

Family Camp

As a further convenience to Scoutmasters who desire to come to camp, there has been established a Family Camp. This camp is open to the wives and small children of leaders in camp at a rate of \$10.00 a week (not including transportation). Children under nine, half price. An increasing number take advantage of this opportunity each year.